



YOUR ULTIMATE GUIDE TO

# TRAVEL IN CROATIA

ADVENTURES  
CROATIA







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WORDS TO REFLECT ON

VISITING CROATIA IS TRULY A ONCE  
IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

PAMELA ROBINSON, CEO





# AN INTRODUCTION FOR TOTAL TRAVEL SAFETY

The global COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented disruption to the travel industry and for those who were planning their dream vacation in 2020. However, thanks to robust testing and common-sense restrictions, Croatia is one of Europe's safest countries when it comes to the virus.

Croatia is a wonderful country to visit – full of outstanding, pristine beaches, incredible, centuries' old history, and delicious regional food and wine – and the good news is that it's still open for business when it comes to tourism.

## Disclaimer:

The following guide is intended to help and inform prospective travelers visiting Croatia during times where COVID-19 may impact travel considerations. We must stress that this guide is purely an opinion piece to help guide you and we cannot guarantee all information to be correct, nor can we accept any liability or responsibility from our guidance to your prospective or existing travel plans. We strongly encourage all those considering travel to Croatia in 2021 to check the latest restrictions and guidelines before booking or undertaking the trip. All information contained within this guide was last updated in December 2020.





That's not to say travelling comes without needing to astutely prepare for the current climate. And if you are thinking about booking ahead in 2021 or even want to take advantage of Croatia's enchanting winter wonderlands and Christmas markets, it's important to know what lies ahead. From what you need to get into the country, to what to expect when you arrive there.

To help our travelers as well as those seeking to travel to Croatia in the near future we have put together a guide with answers to all the key questions you might have. After all, your safety is paramount to us and we pride ourselves on building personal relationships and providing a five star service for all of our customers.

We have always been passionate about working together with agents and clients to curate customizable vacations in a country that is consistently voted as one of the most desirable locations in the world. The virus has brought our friendly, knowledgeable approach into sharp focus and we're acutely aware that traveling anywhere can be an anxious experience for people. That's where our personalized approach comes into play, and we endeavor to make sure you're safe and can maximize the enjoyment of your vacation every step of the way, utilizing our in-depth expertise.

In these uncertain times, we need to reach out and make you fully aware of what to expect and what you need so you can enjoy this beautiful, beguiling country.

# ABOUT ADVENTURES CROATIA

Before we get started, just a little information about us.

We specialize in unique, exclusive, personalized travel planning to Croatia and its surrounding countries. We design individualized journeys, small group tours and deluxe cruises and exceptional excursions that are suited to each client based on years of personal experience, ongoing research, relationships, and professional expertise.

Here at Adventures Croatia, we pride ourselves on curating a professional, bespoke execution of a well-planned trip.

We're headed up by Pamela Robinson, who has an unrelenting passion for travel and, thanks to visits to over 50 countries, has a deep understanding of the American traveler's unique needs and interests.

Pamela has personally planned hundreds of tours to Croatia over the past several years and is currently expanding client itineraries to cover more of the Balkans, to showcase the absolute finest experiences the region has to offer.

With a knowledgeable and friendly team around her, Adventures Croatia has an envied reputation for working with customers to produce memories that last a lifetime.



An aerial photograph of a Croatian coastline. In the top left, several boats are moored near a stone pier. The water is a deep blue, and the coastline is rocky with some greenery. The title text is overlaid on this image.

# CROATIA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

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Croatia's response to the pandemic was swift and robust, with the country's Institute of Public Health issuing guidelines from as early as January 2020.

The government introduced health checks at border crossings, and arrivals from some countries had to quarantine and self-isolate. A nation-wide lockdown came towards the end of March, with people confined to their neighborhoods as Croatia was named one of Europe's first and most effective countries to take action against the virus. These restrictions as well as a thorough response from the Croatian government, all helped to suppress the spread of the virus.

As the summer progressed, Croatia took the step of keeping its borders open to non-EU and EU visitors, provided they presented a negative coronavirus test no older than 48 hours prior to their arrival in the country. This allowed people to visit the country during the summer months whilst also ensuring that people arriving were highly unlikely to pose a risk.





# TRAVELING FROM THE US

## AT THE AIRPORT - WHAT TO EXPECT

While there was much speculation around the risk that air travel can present, there has been a lot of research and studies undertaken showing that air travel is one of the safest forms of travel in relation to the spread of COVID-19. A recent study from **Harvard University** found that air travel presents a lower risk of contracting COVID-19 than grocery shopping or dining out.

### [Read the news](#)

At the airport, TSA security staff will help you go through the process. They will issue you with a face covering if you've forgotten one or don't have one and will instruct you to remove belts and personal items such as wallets, keys or cell phones and place them in your carry-on bag for screening. If you use bathrooms at the airport, use a hand sanitizer or wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds.





# TRAVELING FROM THE US

## REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL

As ever, you will need to wear a mask at all times in public spaces and on the flight itself according to your airline's instructions, and maintain social distancing whenever you can. You are allowed to remove your face covering within the airport and during the flight if you are eating or drinking. If you are medically exempt from wearing a face covering we recommend contacting your airline or origin airport to obtain their policy for this before traveling.

## YOUR ENTRY FORM

The Croatian government has introduced a new [online entry form](#) to expedite the entry of foreign visitors. You are also advised to carry a copy of your accommodation booking to present to customs officials upon entry into Croatia. It's also worth taking out a healthcare travel insurance policy for your trip.





# FLIGHT ROUTES FROM THE US

At present there are no direct flights from the United States to Croatia. However, there are a variety of easy one stop routes that involve short transit through major European airports.

Common stopovers can include Frankfurt, London, Munich, Amsterdam, Paris, Copenhagen, Istanbul, Zurich, Dublin, Rome, Warsaw, Moscow and Vienna where you can usually catch an onward flight to either Zagreb, Split or Dubrovnik.



# DON'T FORGET

## BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

As well as your passport, it's important to make sure you have your travel documents and negative PCR test result with you when you arrive at the airport.

The Croatian government has introduced a new online [entry form](#) to expedite the entry of foreign visitors.

You are also advised to carry a copy of your accommodation booking to present to customs officials upon entry into Croatia. As with all foreign vacations we strongly recommend taking out a comprehensive healthcare travel insurance policy for your trip.



# DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

## TRAVEL ESSENTIALS



Passport



Airline tickets

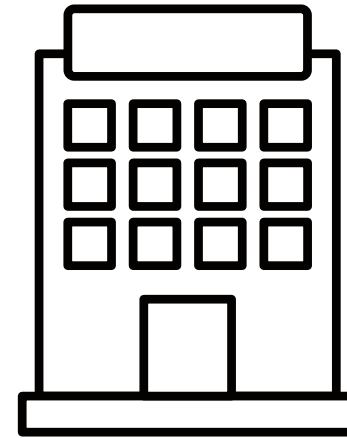


Proof of negative PCR result (no longer  
than 48 hours old)

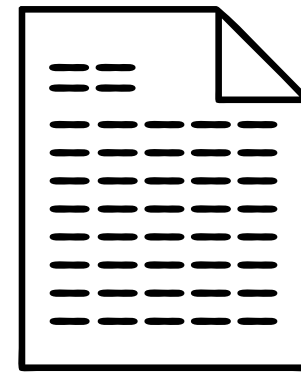


# DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

## TRAVEL ESSENTAILS



Proof of accommodation




Travel and medical Insurance policy



Make sure you've filled in your Enter Croatia form ahead of time.





# WHEN YOU ARRIVE IN CROATIA

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So you have planned your vacation, set off on your flight and are ready to experience a once in a lifetime vacation to Croatia. But what about the key questions you might have about your time visiting this unique country. Read on for our guide to the essential tips and tricks to make your visit unforgettable.





# WHEN YOU ARRIVE IN CROATIA

As of July 2020, US citizens arriving in Croatia for tourism, business, urgent personal reasons, or educational purposes must present a negative PCR test not older than 48 hours (starting from the time of taking the swab until arrival at the border crossing).

Travelers whose test is older than 48 hours will be allowed to enter Croatia, but they will be issued with a self-isolation order and will have to be tested again locally, at their own expense. Having an expired PCR test upon arrival will allow for a shortened period of time in self-isolation pending a negative result of a local PCR test.





Just to be clear, because this is one of the most important things when considering traveling to Croatia: those visitors who **do not** provide a negative PCR test upon arrival will be ordered to quarantine/self-isolate for at least seven days prior to taking a local PCR test. It really is paramount to get a PCR test before you arrive.

Travelers who fail to present a PCR test upon arrival and refuse to take a test locally will be ordered to self-isolate or quarantine for 14 days. A local test cost ranges from \$130 to \$300 or more, depending upon the location, and the result can be expected between 24-48 hours.

If you need to get a test, here's a list of [local testing sites](#).

After receiving a negative test locally, travelers will need to contact a local epidemiologist to clear them from self-isolation.

Here's a list of [local epidemiologists](#)



# TRAVEL TO YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Visitors are welcome to use public transportation in Croatia to get to and from their destinations but ideally private transportation methods are preferred.

Here at Adventures Croatia, we provide transfers to and from the airport as part of your package (on request) and add small touches such as ensuring you have the same driver throughout your stay to minimize the contact with others.



# COVID-19 SAFETY

While many lockdown restrictions have been lifted in the country, the government is still exercising caution.

At present face coverings are mandatory on public transportation (including taxis), and in stores, malls, salons and in other commercial premises where face-to-face contact is necessary.

As of October 27 2020, protective masks must now be worn at all outdoor areas where it is not possible to maintain 1.5 meters of social distance. As of December 2nd 2020 a short circuit-breaker lockdown has been introduced until December 21st. During this lockdown, restaurants, gyms and bars will be closed while public transport is reduced to 40% capacity.

The Croatian authorities are regularly introducing new measure and guidelines and we strongly recommend you check and refer to these before you travel.



# AT YOUR HOTEL

Many hotels in Croatia have implemented precautionary measures to prevent and guard against the spread of coronavirus. Cleaning and disinfection have been intensified in many of the country's hotels – in both visitors' rooms and in public spaces - and the provision of hand sanitizing stations are commonplace.

Some of your hotel's amenities – like spas, outdoor and indoor pools and restaurants – may have been affected by restrictions, so it's best to check ahead if these are deal-breakers. However, a vast majority have introduced COVID-safe measures to ensure these amenities can still be enjoyed, without the usual crowds.

When it comes to eating, many buffet facilities have been swapped for an a la carte service, and one-way signage systems have been put in place to ensure the safe flow of people in these places. Some hotels have also extended breakfast and dinner hours in order to regulate the flow of people.

It should also be noted that in some locations cash payments have been replaced by card payments only, in order to limit the handling of money. Some hotels have also simplified their check-in systems at reception.





# RESTAURANTS AND OTHER HOSPITALITY VENUES

As of Monday October 12, 2020 face masks are mandatory in all public indoor areas, as well as outdoors where close contact cannot be avoided (two-meter social distance).

This includes restaurants and bars except when seated at the table and during eating/drinking, spa centres and sports centres. Face masks, fabric or single-use medical, must be worn properly so that it covers both the mouth and nose.

Restaurants and bars may also have implemented one-way systems for bathroom use, introduced a limit on numbers of people allowed into the bathroom at one time, as well as also providing hand sanitizing stations, too.

As of December 2nd 2020 a short circuit-breaker lockdown has been introduced until December 21st. During this lockdown, restaurants and bars are currently closed.





# WHAT IF YOU EXPERIENCE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?

If you have a negative test result when leaving the US, you're free to enjoy Croatia and its many riches!

However, if you do experience virus symptoms while you're in the country, you should contact a local doctor by phone who will, based on your medical condition and symptoms, assess the need for you to be tested for COVID-19.

[A full list of medical services can be found here.](#)

If your doctor advises you that you need to get a test, there's a comprehensive testing system in order to help you. [Click here to find out addresses and numbers to call.](#)

If you're instructed to self-isolate, you must do so for at least seven days in line with instructions from your local doctor.

The most important thing during self-isolation at your accommodation is to avoid close contact with other people. It sounds like overstating the obvious but this is exactly what it means.

Close contact means less than two meters distance indoors and less than one meter away outdoors for more than 15 minutes. It's advised to keep away from seniors, pregnant women and anyone with long-term medical conditions.

If you break self-isolation rules, authorities have been given permission to fine rule-breakers.





# WHAT TO EXPECT FROM HEALTHCARE IN CROATIA

Healthcare in Croatia is of an extremely high standard, meeting and exceeding European Union standards. It is free at the point of use for all Croatian citizens with facilities being modern and advanced levels of care provided for all patients needing treatment.

With health tourism booming, the country has established a reputation as one of the leading countries in Europe for dentistry and cosmetic surgery. Croatia is also a major hotspot for pioneering medical research and innovation.

For visitors, the country is safe, has a sound medical infrastructure and is able to take care of you during your trip.





## A NOTE FROM OUR TEAM

Our guide on what to expect during the trip might seem a lot to take in, but it is important to be prepared.

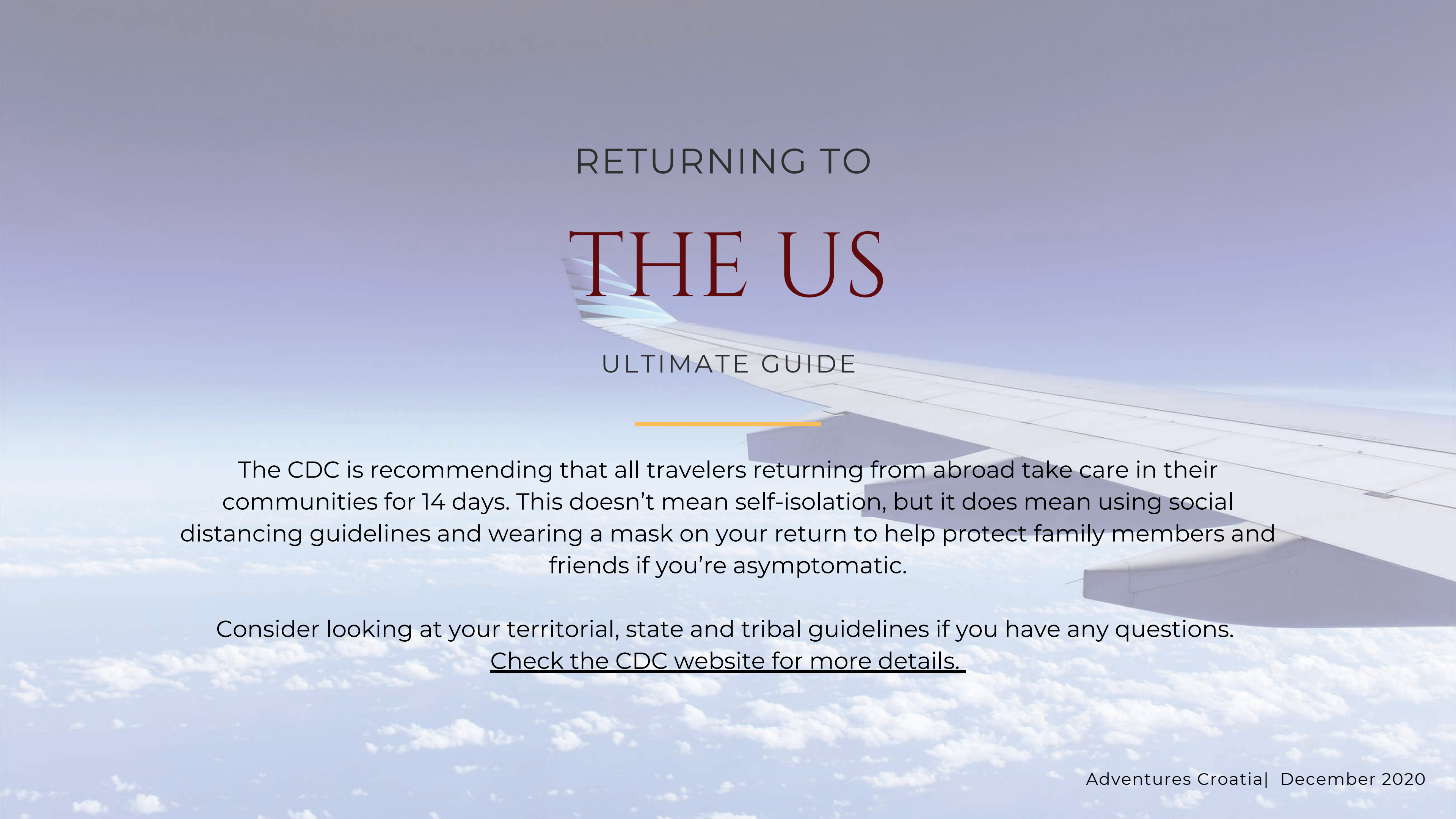
If you take care to follow guidelines both in the US and in Croatia, and exercise common sense when you're there, you will get to experience a fantastic vacation, and all the extra procedures and effort will be worth it when you're in the sun on a gorgeous beach or splashing around contently in the azure waters of the Adriatic.

The world has faced disruption and uncertainty in 2020, but with reported vaccines and therapeutics on the horizon, 2021 is quickly becoming popular with prospective travelers.

Until that time, you can be confident that Croatia is still very much open for business – and the fact there has been a decrease in tourists (a 50 percent decrease from 2019) means that many places are quieter than usual and allow you to explore the rich beauty of the country in its less-crowded natural surroundings.

As ever, we're here to guide you through the process and look after you before you travel and when you arrive in Croatia. That's the very least you deserve and your safety is paramount to us.





# RETURNING TO THE US

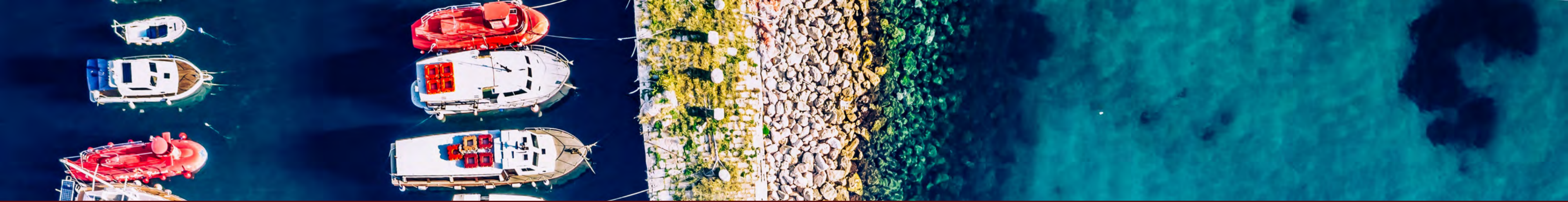
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The CDC is recommending that all travelers returning from abroad take care in their communities for 14 days. This doesn't mean self-isolation, but it does mean using social distancing guidelines and wearing a mask on your return to help protect family members and friends if you're asymptomatic.

Consider looking at your territorial, state and tribal guidelines if you have any questions.  
[Check the CDC website for more details.](#)





If you're interested in booking a vacation of a lifetime with [Adventures Croatia](#) and want to discuss how we can make your trip as safe as possible, speak to one of our friendly and knowledgeable team.

If you want to find out more about restrictions and guidelines visit the [US Embassy of Croatia's website](#)

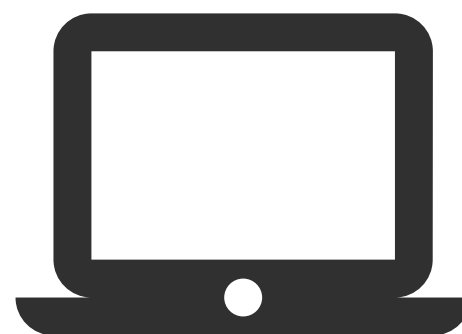
Alternatively, you can visit the [Croatian government's coronavirus website](#)

# WHY BOOK WITH ADVENTURES CROATIA



## Planning your dream vacation

Our curated trips cater to every taste, and we can tailor them to your exact needs. Are you going as a family, looking to enjoy a multi-generational trip? Are you younger and planning to visit with a group of friends and want some exciting nightlife? Or do you want to be active, and take off on bike rides or hikes? We can help you with whatever you're looking for.



## Attention to detail

With a team comprised of experts who have years worth of travel experience across the globe and a real passion for Croatia, we pride ourselves on attention to detail. The relationships we cultivate with businesses and services on the ground in Croatia itself help produce an authentic Croatian experience unlike anywhere else.



# WHY BOOK WITH ADVENTURES CROATIA



## On the ground support

Once you start the ball rolling with us, we're with you every step of the way – from speaking with you in the beginning to looking after you during your vacation. Not only can we offer truly expert advice on Croatia and its surrounding countries because they are our sole focus, but we also provide 24-hour support from our on-the-ground team while you're in the country.



## Our commitment to you

Establishing a personal relationship with our travelers is so important to us, and trust is always at the heart of what we do. That way the only thing you have to concentrate on is enjoying the trip of a lifetime with unforgettable experiences, and making memories that last forever.



“

Adventures Croatia were fantastic! They worked with us wonderfully to plan our trip just the way we wanted, and they supported us all along the way with an on the ground contact who kept in touch when we had questions. We got the royal treatment by all the hotels and guides who they arranged for us.



“

Unbelievable trip, met or exceeded all of our expectations! **They planned every detail** and it worked out so perfectly. Would recommend it unconditionally.



# MEET THE TEAM

GET TO KNOW US



PAMELA ROBINSON

Founder and CEO



LISA ALBERT

Travel Specialist



MIMI KENT

Travel Specialist

# MEET THE TEAM

GET TO KNOW US



INES PALAC

Travel Specialist



NATALIA BARON

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